

Message Text

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46

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ACDA-19 AEC-11 OMB-01 IO-14 OIC-04 EB-11

CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03 NEA-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01

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R 141430Z DEC 73

FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3285

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INFO USNMR SHAPE

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 6124

E.O. 11652: GDS, 12-31-79

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJ: NATO FORCE PLANNING DATA BASE/MBFR DATA

VIENNA FOR USDEL MBFR

MBFR STAFF GROUP HAS CIRCULATED AC/276-WP(73)46, CURRENT PROGRESS
RELATIVE TO THE NATO FORCE PLANNING DATA BASE, WHICH STRESSES
DEPENDENCE OF NATO'S DATA BASE ON NATIONAL INPUTS.

BEGIN TEXT.

MOST OF THE DATA FOR MBFR DATA LISTINGS ARE DERIVED
FROM THE COMPUTERISED NATO FORCE PLANNING DATA BASE WHICH IS
HELD BY THE DEFENCE PLANNING AND POLICY DIVISION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL STAFF. RECENT EXPERIENCE HAS SHOWN THAT THERE
ARE MAINLY TWO FIELDS IN WHICH IMPROVEMENTS CONCERNING THE
PROVISION OF DATA WOULD BE MOST DESIRABLE: FIRST, THE
PERIODICAL UP-DATING OF DATA AND SECOND, THE XPEDITION
OF THE TRANSCRIPTION OF INFORMATION FROM THE DATA BASE ON
TO STANDARD MBFR DATA LISTINGS.
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2. THE NEXT UP-DATING PROCESS WILL TAKE PLACE IN THE
SPRING OF 1974 AND WILL REFLECT THE STATUS OF NATO FORCES
AT END-1973. IN THE CASE OF SEVERAL COUNTRIES, THE UP-DATING
PROCEDURE WILL BE GREATLY IMPROVED THROUGH THE PROVISION OF

DATA ON MAGNETIC TAPES - AS EARLY AS JANUARY/FEBRUARY 1974.
THIS WILL ACCELERATE DATA PROCESSING TO A CONSIDERABLE EXTENT.
IT WOULD ALSO MAKE IT FEASIBLE, IF NECESSARY, TO UP-DATE
DETAILED DATA MORE OFTEN DURING THE YEAR. IT WILL BE
COMPLEMENTED BY SHAPE'S OFFER TO PREPARE COMPUTER PROGRAMMES
TO ALLOW FOR THE STANDARD MBFR LISTINGS (MAINLY FOR GROUND
FORCES) TO BE PRODUCED DIRECTLY BY COMPUTERS. THIS TOO WILL
BRING ABOUT A SIGNIFICANT ACCELERATION: IN FACT, IN THE CASE OF
THOSE COUNTRY SECTIONS FOR WHICH INPUT DATA WILL BE MADE
AVAILABLE ON DATA MEDIA, IT WOULD EXCLUDE NEARLY ALL MANUAL
WORK FROM THE PROCESS OF UP-DATING AND PRESENTING DATA FOR
MBFR PURPOSES.

3. THE BENEFITS THAT RESULT FROM THESE IMPROVEMENTS
(BETTER AVAILABILITY AND RESPONSIVENESS OF DATA) ARE OBVIOUS
AND IT IS HOPED THAT MORE COUNTRIES WILL BE ABLE TO PROVIDE
THEIR DATA ON DATA MEDIA DURING 1974; BUT THIS WOULD NEED
RECOGNITION OF THE IMPORTANCE OF THESE IMPROVEMENTS AND FULL
SUPPORT FOR THEIR IMPLEMENTATION ON THE PART OF NATIONAL
AUTHORITIES.

END TEXT. RUMSFELD

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